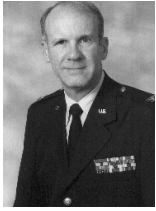


# Professional Military Comptroller School

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As the Professional Military Comptroller School (PMCS) celebrates its thirtieth anniversary, it is interesting to look back at its roots. PMCS has taken advantage of quantum leaps in technology; it has introduced dynamic changes in topics; it has kept pace with relevant challenges in contemporary comptrollership. Yet, despite these challenges, the basic direction and mission have remained substantially constant: to educate Department of Defense (DoD) comptrollers as generalists in a changing resource environment. It is this audience that PMCS has served for the past thirty years. Since August 1968, when the first class was convened, the school has graduated over 7,000 students from its regular course. Another 700 National Guard and Reserve Force students have graduated from the two-week Reserve Course that was begun in 1983. PMCS is proud to claim at least nine general officers and numerous Senior Executive Service civilians amongst its alumni. Graduates of the course have come from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force as well as other organizations—Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Contract Audit Agency, DoD Inspector General, and the National Security Agency.

In early 1966, the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management commissioned a study of financial management education in the DoD. Representatives of the Army and Navy were included in the task force that conducted the study. The results of the study were presented in March 1967, and concluded that there was a need within the DoD for a standardized course focusing on financial management at the DoD level. The original course design centered on the organizations, functions, operating concepts, personnel practices, and basic philosophies of comptrollership. In May of that year, Headquarters USAF established the Professional Military Comptrollership Directorate with a charter to create a school of such high quality that people would compete to attend. Additionally, the Directorate emphasized education over training, and gave command Comptrollers a voice in the student selection process.

Through three decades PMCS has been able to improve accountability and fiscal readiness of DoD personnel by providing world class financial management education. As a key DoD financial management school, PMCS has, and will continue to help financial managers broaden their professional horizons and enhance their individual capacities to serve effectively as comptrollers.

Happy Birthday PMCS!

